

Established in 2002, the **Poultney Downtown Revitalization Committee**, **Inc**. (PDRC) is a 501(3)(c) non-profit charged with overseeing activities that bolster Poultney's Designated Downtown.

As a result of our designation, businesses, non-profits, and income-producing properties (e.g. rentals) in buildings over 30 years old that operate within the Designated Downtown are eligible for state and federal tax credits for façade work and various code improvements. In addition, the Town, Village, non-profits, and others can receive priority consideration for many State grant opportunities, and our municipalities have access to Vermont's Downtown Transportation Fund for transportation-related capital improvements within or serving the designated area. Learn more about these resources by visiting poultneydowntown.com.

2024 Year in Review

Building Capacity for Downtown Success. 2024 was a year of strategic growth for the PDRC. We focused on strengthening our capacity to lead and collaborate on projects that elevate Poultney's designated downtown area. A key achievement was securing the Downtown Vibrancy Grant, which allowed us to hire the talented Laura Williams as a part-time director. This leadership role has been instrumental in managing projects, providing direction to the board, and revamping our online presence through social media, updated bylaws, and board member job descriptions.

Community Collaboration & Events. The PDRC led several community-wide initiatives in 2024. We hosted the 2024 MapleFest and spearheaded the festive downtown holiday decorations. This collaborative effort involved the Poultney Area Chamber of Commerce, Poultney Rotary, and the Poultney Public Library. Together, we adorned Main Street with light pole decorations, created a photo opportunity and decorative arch in Slate Quarry Park, and lit up the Stonebridge Visitor Center. Additionally, we ran a successful online marketing campaign featuring a Poultney holiday calendar and online advertising, driving traffic and providing support to over 30 local events.

Beautification Efforts. Understanding the link between aesthetics and economic growth, the PDRC prioritized downtown beautification projects. We organized a community garden bed cleanup with support from the Poultney Mettowee Natural Resources Conservation District and a local volunteer UVM Master Gardener (Larry Springsteen). In addition, we contracted with Carpenter & Costin, and their work included weekly maintenance of Main Street gardens and preparing the beds for spring planting in 2025.

The PDRC remains grateful for the generous support of individual donors and annual appropriations from the Town and Village. We are committed to using these resources wisely to maximize the benefit for Poultney and build a bright future for our downtown.

Sincerely, Jaime Lee, PDRC President